

[Translation]

Fifth Pay Commission

1172. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial burden likely to be borne by the Centre if it accepts the recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) whether difficulties is being faced by the Centre in implementing the recommendations due to limited financial resources of State Governments; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The implementation of all the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission is likely to involve additional financial implications of Rs. 8800 crores per annum. However, if the age of superannuation is increased to 60 years, the net implication will be Rs. 7300 crores per annum.

(b) and (c) The recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission are applicable to the Central Government Employees and to All-India Service officers.

ADB Loan to Gujarat

1173. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank have sanctioned assistance of Rupees 875 crores to Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the condition on which the above amount has been sanctioned; and

(d) the field in which it will be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A US \$ 250 million loan agreement between Government of India and Asian Development Bank was signed on 18th December, 1996 for Gujarat Public Sector Resource Management Programme. The main objective of the programme is to support Government of Gujarat in augmenting domestic resource mobilisation, improving allocation and efficiency of the public sector and reducing Government of Gujarat's role in commercial activities while promoting market-oriented policies to enhance private sector participation in the Infrastructure sectors. The external assistance would flow to Government of India from the Bank's Ordinary Capital Resource (OCR) on the standard OCR terms and conditions with the amortization period of 15 years including grace period of three years. This external assistance will be transferred by Government of India to Government of Gujarat, in Rupees, in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA), as Loans and

Grants, in the ratio of 70:30 as per set practice. The counterpart funds will finance the cost of (i) structural adjustment of SOE reforms including debt restructuring and labour rationalisation, (ii) short term revenue losses resulting from tax reforms, and (iii) project development and feasibility studies sponsored by the Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board in key infrastructure sectors.

[English]

Agreement with SAIL

1174. SHRI JAGMOHAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coal India Limited has finalised any agreement with Steel Authority of India Ltd., under which the latter has been handed over the Tasra Coal Mines in Madhya Pradesh for captive use:

(b) if so, the main provisions of this agreement; and

(c) the other mining blocks identified and mining deals finalised with other public sector and private sector units for captive mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b) Tasra block in the Jharia Coalfields in Bihar was allotted in April, 1996 to M/s. Steel Authority of India Ltd. for captive mining. No agreement with Coal India Limited is necessary for the allotment.

(c) 69 mining blocks have been identified for allotment for captive use. 28 blocks/sub-blocks have been allotted to 20 public/private sector units by the Screening Committee of Ministry of Coal, so far.

Scooter India Limited

1175. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state ;

(a) the details of production and sale of three-wheelers and two wheelers scooters during each of the last three years by the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow;

(b) the details of efforts made by the company during the above period to reach these vehicles to far-flung rural segments of the country to improve the communication system;

(c) whether any action has been taken of such vehicles to reduce both sound and smoke pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) SIL has appointed dealers in rural segments in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal etc. The rural market has been identified as the thrust area by the company.

(c) and (d) SIL has sponsored a project to Automotive Research Association of India for bringing

down the sound and emission levels, which is presently under progress.

The details of production and sale of three-wheelers and two-wheelers for the last three years, for Scooters India Ltd., is given below :

Description	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
	Prod.	Sales	Prod.	Sales	Prod.	Sales	Prod.	Sales
								(April to Jan.)
3-Wheelers	4222	4356	7863	7276	11095	11509	12667	12635
2-Wheelers	403	789	110	272	233	159	181	195
Turnover (Rs. in Crores)	27.98		49.03		84.44		98.47	

UNIDO

1176. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have studied the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation's (UNIDO) Global Report on Industrial Development;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto particularly on the policy shifts in globalised milieu so far as India is concerned; and

(c) the manner in which India has benefited from the globalisation process in the spheres of technical and investment co-operation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The Government has received a copy of the UNIDO's Global Report 1996 on Industrial Development which highlights the opportunities and challenges which globalization presents to both developing countries and the economies in transition, particularly in terms of human resource development (HRD), technological capabilities, sustainable industrial development and international cooperation.

UNIDO has played a catalytic role in the spheres of technical and investment cooperation. It has provided technical assistance support to organise Investment and Technology Market in India with a view to fostering both inward and outward flows of investment and technology.

Electronic Voting Machines

1177. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the present position regarding the introduction of electronic voting machines for elections; and

(b) the number of such machines purchased and the expenditure made thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) The Election Commission proposes to

discuss the issue of introduction of electronic voting machine with political parties during a meeting scheduled for March 1997.

(b) 1.5 lakh electronic voting machines had been purchased in 1989 at a cost of around Rs. 75 crores.

[Translation]

Loan for Upgrading Technology of Coal Washing

1178. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Import Export Bank of America has offered to give loan to India for upgrading the technology of coal washing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the plants for which the proposed loan is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

Economic Reforms

1179. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a working group on the right to information and to promote openness and transparency in the implementation of economic-reforms and liberalisation in economy; and

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference and which are the areas beyond the scrutiny of the group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Government have set up a Working Group on Right to Information and Promotion of open and transparent